

THE STATE CAMPAIGN

CORTLAND.
SPEECHES BY GOV. HOFFMAN AND THE HON.
FRANCIS KERNAN—THE COUNTY THOR-
OUGHLY AROUSED—A CALM AND ABLE DIS-

CUTION OF THE QUESTIONS AT ISSUE.
[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

CORTLAND, Oct. 17.—Thousands of the honest farmers of Cortland County, with their wives and daughters, not discouraged by the reverses in Pennsylvania, nor disheartened at the prospect of a cold, drizzling rain "which threatened all the morning, and carried its threats into execution after dinner, came in to town, to-day, in their buggies and farm wagons to listen to a discussion of the important issues of the campaign from each side, each of speakers on the recent and next

Governor of the State, Hoffman and Kernan. The meeting was in every way a surprise even to the Committee who had made the necessary preparations for it—a surprise at its numbers and at the enthusiasm that did not show itself so much in bursts of applause as in the persistence with which the immense audience stood for more than an hour in a most disagreeable atmosphere made more uncomfortable by an occasional dash of chilly rain. There was no uniform procession hired to add eclat to the occasion, no money spent for a deceptive outside show, but a spontaneous gathering of the common people who do not lose their pluck even in such strongholds of Republicanism and Grantism as Cortlandt Hall has been. At 10 o'clock the speaker, Mr. Hoffman, descended from the hotel, where he had arrived last evening, to the residence of Mr. Henry S. Randall, from the steps of which he spoke the first

large halls of a village combined not being half large enough to contain the great audience. The meeting was at once called to order, and Henry S. Randall unanimously chosen to preside. The customary list of Vice-Presidents and Secretaries was then read, including the names of more than 100 of the most prominent citizens of this county, half Liberal Republicans and half Democrats, embracing such names as those of ex-Assemblymen Jos. Atwater and Raymond A. Babcock, ex-Judge of the Supreme Court Wm. H. Shankland, and a majority of the Board of Supervisors of the county.

Mr. Randall at once introduced Gov. Hoffman, Mr. Kernan having but just returned from Albany, and being unable to speak more than an hour. After some preliminary remarks, Gov. Hoffman said that he had been so long accustomed in the discharge of either judicial or executive duties to look upon public questions calmly and dis-

personally that he had almost become unfitted to deliver a popular speech. He did not appear before the people of this county to rouse their prejudices. He was not here to indulge in personalities touching either of the parties. He was here to tell the people of the United States (Constitution) might think it his right and in accordance with the dignity of his high office to enter that field, as he heard, the State of New-York had too much respect for his office and for the people to do any such thing. The Governor said that he saw before him men who were not so much afraid of the people as they thought they would vote, and he had no idea that anything he could say would change them. Such of them as were Democrats he had no objection to, but he thought the Democrats were faltering and hovering between two opinions, and the first thing he would say to them was, that it was their duty to vote. All through this land of ours, he said, there was a duty resting upon every citizen to exercise this right at all proper times, and to exercise it intelligently. He

tion of the action by voters by undue influences. The present Administration has more power than any other, and the present Legislature has more power than any other term, one, and the present Governor has more power than any other Governor. We know that in the States which held elections in October, more money was used than had ever been used before. We know that the money was used to influence the voters in like manner the voters of this county, it would be indignantly frowned down. One of the distinguished candidates before the election said, "If any man hauls down the American flag, shoot him on the spot." If the Governor had his way by authority of law he would shoot upon any man who would haul down the American flag, and he would send the man who sold his vote to keep him in the county. As Governor of the State he had called the attention of the Legislature to the fact that the people regret the last Legislature adjourned without providing for submitting to the people the Constitutional amendment which would have given the people the right to elect a Governor. He has to meet this corrupt use of money is through the people, who are able, by the force of public opinion, to put down traitors in office or out.

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Gov. Hoffman then arraigned the National Administration for having failed to accomplish all these things. It was the National Administration, he said, that had failed to bring contentment and prosperity to the South; it had sustained the corrupt State governments of the South; it had not been able to pay the \$100,000,000 of the national debt, as was claimed, it had paid off \$300,000,000 of the national debt, it had collected \$400,000,000 a year, and there was still \$100,000,000 owing; it had not been able to find the money to do with.

It had passed a law giving the President power to sus-

thought of giving him before the war or during the war. The speaker then paid a high complement to the men who composed the Cincinnati Convention, and to Mr. Greeley, the nominee of that Convention. Reading from Mr. Greeley's letter of acceptance, he said that those were brave words, bravely spoken by a brave man, and that the speaker was proud to have a brave man as his friend. Touching on State affairs, he paid a just tribute to Mr. Kerman, and to Mr. Huscock, the Liberal candidate for Congress, calling upon them to accept a brave man as their friend. He then asked, whether he acted with them in the past, but only remembering that he is with them now. In closing, the Governor said that it gave him pleasure to yield the floor to a man, as it would have to any man, who would yield his official position to him on the 1st of January.

After three cheers for the Governor, Mr. Kerman, and Mr. Huscock, the meeting adjourned to 10 o'clock.

Hall, where Mr. Kerman made an able speech to as many as could gain admission.

HOMER.
A TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION AND ILLUMINATION
—MORE SPECIES BY HOFFMAN AND KERMAN.
[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]
HOMER, Oct. 17.—If the Liberal party fails to get enough votes in Cortland County to elect its candidates, it has at least its full share of the intelligent people of this county to attend its meetings. One of the most striking features of the present campaign in the State has been the improvement in the character of the audiences which everywhere listen to the arguments of the Democratic orators. Instead of gatherings composed entirely of men sitting with their hats on and smoking their pipes and cigars, such as were met with in 1868, the people come to Democratic meetings this year dressed in their best and accompanied by

their wives and daughters. The audience of more than 3,000 who crowded Homer Hall that evening, filling every square inch of space and overflowing upon the stage, and into the rear inclosure, witnessed the meeting. The meeting was preceded by a torchlight procession, participated in by the Greeley and Brown Clubs of Portland and of this place. The parade was very creditable, and along its line of march with profusion of fireworks, the firing of cannon, and the illumination of the residences of many of the leading citizens.

The meeting in the hall was called to order by Mr. J. I. Hickok, and Mr. George Murray, one of the most respected Democratic citizens of the city, presided. He reported that of the twenty-five Vice-Presidents and ten Secretaries, some Liberal Republicans, and some Democrats, was read, after which Gov. Hoffman was introduced and spoke in a very able and interesting manner. In the subsequent manner the great issues of the National and National contest, the great audience repeated

pecially when he explained the manner in which the Administration gets money out of Wall-st. to carry elections in this great State by giving to certain bankers who hold the money bags, information in advance of what it intends to do to effect the money or bond market, and he denounced in the strongest and most earnest terms the whole corrupt use of money in elections. Gov. Hoffman was followed by the Hon. Francis Kernan, who held the whole audience up late hours with his clear and interesting arguments. The meeting broke up with cheers for the State, National, and Congress nominees of the Liberal party.